

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 19098 161610Z
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SIL-01 AF-04 INR-05 CIAE-00
NSAE-00 SAA-01 SP-02 ICA-01 NSCE-00 SES-01 EB-04
IO-06 L-01 /048 W
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R 161547Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 19098

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB EG US
SUBJECT: VISIT OF EGYPTIAN LABOR LEADER

REF: STATE 206053

1. REFTEL IS INTERESTING. WE HERE CLEARLY WOULD WELCOME ANY CLOSER TIES THAT MIGHT DEVELOP BETWEEN EFL AND HISTADRUT. SOME EGYPTIAN UNION LEADERS WOULD ALSO LIKE GREATER CONTACT WITH ISRAELI COUNTERPARTS, BUT IT IS FRANKLY DIFFICULT TO CONCEIVE OF EGYPTIAN LABOR MOVEMENT GETTING OUT AHEAD OF THE GOE ON A MATTER OF SUCH POLITICAL SENSITIVITY. PERHAPS LEE IS RIGHT THAT A FAVORABLE REPLY MIGHT BE FORTHCOMING BEFORE THE CAMP DAVID MEETING, BUT HE WOULD BE WELL ADVISED NOT TO STAY UP LATE AT NIGHT WAITING FOR ONE.

2. IT IS A MEASURE OF THE LIMITED UNDERSTANDING THAT AFL-CIO LEADERS SEEM TO HAVE OF EGYPTIAN AFFAIRS THAT THEY SHOULD BELIEVE THEY CAN PRESS EGYPTIAN TRADE UNIONISTS TO SHOW INDEPENDENCE FROM GOE POLICY IN A HIGHLY POLITICAL MATTER OF THIS SORT. WE TOO HAVE
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ASSUMED THAT AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT IS UNLIKELY TO SHOW MUCH INTEREST IN EGYPTIAN LABOR MOVEMENT UNTIL SOME NEW PROGRESS IN EGYPTIAN/ISRAELI RELATIONS IS MADE. THIS IS PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE TO US AND, APART FROM THE REGRETTABLE RESULT THAT IT STRENGTHENS PRO-SOVIET ELEMENTS IN THE EGYPTIAN LABOR MOVEMENT, IT DOES NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT OVERALL USG/GOE RELATIONS.

WE AGREE THAT SUCH MATTERS SHOULD REMAIN BILATERAL TRADE UNION
ISSUES, ALTHOUGH WE SUSPECT THAT MUSTAFA WILL ON HIS
RETURN REPORT LEE'S REQUEST AND THAT IT WILL BE VIEWED
AS HAVING ACTIVE USG ENDORSEMENT. EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: VISITS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
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From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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